

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

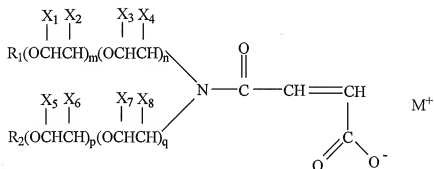
Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1) (Currently Amended) A composition of matter useful as a detergent which comprises:

a) a first component which is a polymer that is formed from the co-polymerization of:

i) a first monomer having the structure:



in which R_1 and R_2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, and any C_1 to C_{24} hydrocarbyl group; X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 , X_5 , X_6 , X_7 , X_8 in each occurrence are each independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, ethyl, and methyl; M^+ is selected from the

group consisting of: hydrogen, alkali metal ions, an alkaline earth metal ions, ammonium ions, alkyl-substituted ammonium ions, and hydroxyalkyl-substituted ammonium ions; m, n, p, q are each independently any integer in the range of between 0 and about 50, including 0 and 50, subject to the proviso that at least one of m, n, p, q are not zero; and

ii) a second monomer, which is prepared from a polyethylene glycol having a methyl end cap and an ethylenically-unsaturated monomer selected from the group consisting of: acrylic acid and methacrylic acid; and

b) one or more second component(s) useful in formulating soaps, cleaning compositions, hard surface cleaners, and laundry detergents.

2) (Original) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the weight average molecular weight of said polymer is any value in the range of between about 3,000 and 100,000.

3) (Original) A composition according to claim 1 further comprising an effective amount of water for dissolving said polymer, so as to provide an aqueous solution comprising said polymer.

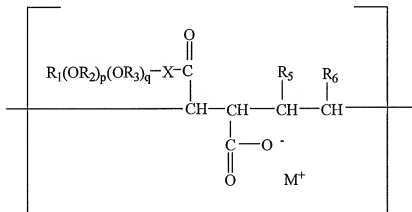
4) (Original) An aqueous solution according to claim 3 wherein said polymer is present in any amount between about 0.1 and about 10 % by weight based on the total weight of said solution.

5) (Original) A composition according to claim 3 wherein $p=0$, $q=0$, $n=0$, m is about 3, R_2 is hydrogen; R_1 is any C_8 to C_{20} hydrocarbyl group; and at least one of X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , or X_4 is hydrogen.

6) (Cancelled)

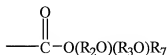
7) (Currently Amended) A composition useful as a detergent which comprises:

a) a polymer having a weight-average molecular weight of any value in the range of between about 3,000 to 100,000, which polymer includes in its structure a plurality of units described by the formula:



in which X is selected from the group consisting of: oxygen and $---NR_4---$, the sum of p and q is any value between about 1 and about 100, including 1 and 100, wherein R_1 is independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, and any C_1 to C_{20} hydrocarbyl group; R_2 and R_3 may each be the same or different, and when the same they are selected from the group consisting of: any C_1 to C_6 alkyl group, and when R_2 and R_3 are different they are each independently selected from the group consisting of: any C_1 to C_6

alkyl group; R₄ is independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, and any C₁ to C₆ alkyl group; R₅ is H and R₆ ~~is~~ ~~are~~ ~~each independently selected from the group~~ consisting of: H, ~~CN~~, ~~CONH₂ (amide)~~, ~~COOR₇ (ester)~~, ~~CO₂H~~, ~~COO⁻~~, and



in which R₇ is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, methyl, and ethyl; and wherein n is sufficient to yield a weight average molecular weight of said polymer of any value in the range of between about 3,000 and 100,000, including salts thereof; M⁺ is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, alkali metal ions, an alkaline earth metal ions, ammonium ions, alkyl-substituted ammonium ions, and hydroxyalkyl-substituted ammonium ions; and

b) at least one material useful in formulating soaps, cleaning compositions, hard surface cleaners, and laundry detergents,

8) (Original) A composition according to claim 7 further comprising an effective amount of water for dissolving said polymer, so as to provide an aqueous solution comprising said polymer.

9) (Original) An aqueous solution according to claim 8 wherein said polymer is present in any amount between about 0.1 and about 10 % by weight based on the total weight of said solution.